STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
714/744 P STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

March 4, 1988

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

Letter: 88 - 11

SUBJECT: LYNCH V. RANK (PICKLE) TRAINING

The Department of Health Services has completed its annual comprehensive and update "Pickle" training in all but one of the 58 counties. This type of comprehensive training will not be required of DHS in the future. We will, however, be available for informal training at county facilities on an as needed basis. We will be shifting our focus and emphasis on ensuring county responsibilities under the "Pickle" court order have been met. Pursuant to the court order in the Lynch v. Rank lawsuit, we will be ensuring that county welfare departments on an annual basis provide "Pickle" training to their staff in the month prior to the Title II cost of living increase.

We are also shifting some of the responsibility of monitoring "Pickle" eligibility determinations from the Policy analyst to the Corrective Action analyst. The Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch Corrective Action Unit has already begun monitoring counties and will be responsible for county compliance with the court ordered Pickle determination procedures and annual training. Corrective Action staff will be available to work with counties to: a) review their progress; b) ensure that appropriate action has been taken; and c) to identify and resolve any problem areas that counties may be experiencing. In order to ensure county compliance, Corrective Action staff will routinely pull sample "Pickle" cases to determine whether appropriate action was taken as part of their county reviews.

Updates to the "Pickle" manual will continue to be the responsibility of the Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch Pickle Coordinator in the Policy Unit. These updates will be mailed to the counties on an annual basis with the exception of critical issues that may periodically arise which will be sent to counties via a SYSM and All County Letter. Please note that the Corrective Action Unit will follow-up on county implementation of all updates to the "Pickle" manual. The Policy Unit will continue to retain responsibility for day to day policy questions on Pickle issues and provision/coordination of information related to the annual Title II/XVI COLA, 503 leads and Tickler notices/systems.

Any questions concerning this letter should be directed to the Pickle Coordinator, RaNae M. Dunne at (916) 324-4955, ATSS 8-454-4955. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants

Expiration Date: December 31, 1988